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LEWIS J. CUTLER,
Marietta, Ohio.

"IF THE SHOE FITS YOU—
THEN WEAR IT"



—By—
ADAM LIAR

I have been rejoicing since I made the discovery that green is being worn extensively this spring and that it is also to be worn this summer. Now I can let my last year's light suit become a terribly grass stained and have it right in style. Then there's another thing—the girls will not have to worry about that grass stain—it won't show, anyway.

I received a ring last week—it was a gift—and contained a set consisting of a tiny potato. Personally, I don't welcome such a gift for I haven't any safety deposit box and I don't feel that I can afford to hire the guards necessary to protect our house, where the precious spud is kept at night. Now that I've got the bloody thing, what am I going to do about it?

Nowadays when you see a farmer going around with a haggard and worn look, don't sympathize with him because you think he's in hard luck. He's probably been losing sleep while he sat up to watch his bin of spuds.

The easiest way for some Alliance men to recognize a fake scheme is to let it fake him.

I know a guy who becomes quite indignant on receiving bills or statements from any firm he chances to be owing because he thinks they reflect on his integrity and credit. This is sure foolishly wrong. The bill or statement is universally employed by business men to keep their customers informed as to the condition of their accounts. I don't know how these sensitive persons feel about it but it seems to me that they can spare themselves much disagreeable ill feeling by taking it for granted when they say "charge it" that they are going to be asked to pay unless they hurry up faster than a lot of people in Alliance have been reported as doing.

After a long period of careful observation I am convinced that the invention most necessary to the peace and well being of the community is a device for rendering talking machines noiseless to everyone except those who wish to hear them. It might be a good idea to go back to those rubber tubes, one end of which was attached to the talking machine and the other you stuck in your ear. Remember, and you paid a nickel to the man who cranked the darned thing.

"Do you know," the sweet thing confided to me, "I would convert my flower garden into a potato garden this summer, only last year father dug our potatoes before they went to seed, and they say the seed this year is so high that I really don't feel that I can afford to buy any."

They say that half the world doesn't know what the other half is doing. But if the rest of the world is anything like Alliance this is wrong for here one half knows more about the other half than the other half does itself.

I know a man who says he is willing to fight if he can be a general or somewhere in that neighborhood—he won't fight.

Say, did you ever stop to think that if everyone in Alliance got what he or she deserved there would be a lot more sad faces around this burg.

A Box Butte county citizen came into the office the other day and admitted to me that he was rip-snorting mad. An organization to which he belonged was adopting a certain policy with which he did not agree and he had a mind to explode some strong facts in regard thereto, only—

Let him say it: "I don't like to hurt anybody's feelings, and I don't like to make any enemies, and I don't like to be criticised and have my motives questioned."

This man, I think, was showing weakness bordering on cowardice. He was dodging his duty. It is the duty of every man to speak out when the occasion seems to demand it. He may be dead wrong. But he also may be the means of starting a discussion that will put the others dead right.

There was once a young fellow who feared to propose to his girl because he was afraid of hurting her feelings if she didn't want him, and thought that in such a case his action would provoke criticism. Some other fellow got the girl.

The man without backbone won't develop more backbone by holding back. Say what you think when sound thinking is necessary. You may be right.

Clear Away the Waste
Bowel regularity is the secret of good health, bright eyes, clear complexions, and Dr. King's New Life Pills are a mild and gentle laxative that regulates the bowels and relieves the congested intestines by removing the accumulated wastes without griping. Take a pill before retiring and that heavy head, that dull spring fever feeling disappears. Get Dr. King's New Life Pills at your druggist, 25c.

BETTER TEACHERS FOR THE RURAL SCHOOLS

(By J. L. McBrien, School Extension Agent, Bureau of Education, Department of the Interior.)

Remember that there are 150,000 rural teachers in this country with less than high school education and no professional training. Measured by the responsibility that rests upon the teacher, it is little short of criminal for a state to permit a girl with only an elementary education, which was obtained in a rural school of only seven or eight grades in charge of a teacher who possessed only a seventh or eighth grade education, secured in a like school under a like teacher, to take upon herself the high and responsible task of teaching in the rural schools. For if there is any place in the entire field of education where a teacher of superior qualifications most needed it is in the one-teacher rural school, and there are over 200,000 such schools in the United States today. The teacher in such a school must play the part of primary teacher, intermediate teacher, and grammar grade teacher day after day and oftentimes she must teach some high school subjects.

With this task in mind, visualize the rural teacher and the rural school as pictured in one of the epigrams of T. J. Coates, former state supervisor of rural schools in Kentucky, and now president of the State Normal School, Richmond, Ky.:

"The average farmer and rural teacher think the rural school as a little house, on a little ground, with a little equipment, where a little teacher at a little salary, for a little while, teaches little children little things."

It is only within the past five years that any considerable number of state normal schools have established special departments of rural education. There are still too many state normal schools that are not doing what they should do in the preparation of teachers for the rural schools. And all of the state normal schools should do more than they are doing at present to prepare teachers for the rural schools.

There are some state normal schoolmen who still think that no special preparation is necessary for teaching in the rural schools different from that required for teaching in the city schools. It is true that there are some fundamental principles of pedagogy common to all fields of teaching. Harold W. Foght, specialist in rural school practice, U. S. Bureau of Education, says:

"A specialized preparation is necessary to give rural communities the right kind of teachers and these should, preferably, come from the state normal schools rather than from training classes in secondary schools and similar institutions. The American normal school is beginning to adjust its work to answer these new needs. One thing is evident—this specialized preparation can not be acquired in so-called general courses for rural teachers but must come through the new specialized rural school departments already organized in at least 50 leading state normal schools. The class work of the general rural school course is often in charge of the regular instructors of the professional department in the institution who have had little particular preparation for rural life phases of educational work, consequently these courses are seldom satisfactory in results and not much sought after by the students of the school. Quite different results are apparent where the normal schools have organized distinct departments in rural education. The plan usually followed is to place a carefully prepared rural school expert at the head of the department; other assistants are added from time to time as the development of the department may require. The plan of organization is to group the school subjects around a study of the problems of rural life, including rural sociology and rural economics. Much emphasis is placed on rural school methods of teaching and rural school management; preferably, also, there is a model rural school connected with the department and under its direction, either on the normal school campus or in the nearby rural schools. The plan is, further, for the department to extend its services to the country communities which receive the teacher product of the school. In departments of this kind it is possible to prepare broad-minded far-sighted men and women to do the work of agricultural reorganization in America."

Let him say it: "I don't like to hurt anybody's feelings, and I don't like to make any enemies, and I don't like to be criticised and have my motives questioned."

AMEND ACT FOR STOCK RAISING HOMESTEADS

Register and Receiver of Alliance
Land Office Receive Circular
No. 538 on Subject

Register T. J. O'Keefe and Receiver John W. Morrow of the Alliance land office have received what is known as Circular No. 538, pertaining to stock-raising homesteads, act of December 29, 1916. This circular is an amendment to Circular No. 523.

The circular states that the instructions issued January 27, 1917, under the provisions of the act of congress of December 29, 1916 (Public No. 290), relating to stock-raising homesteads, are amended in the following respects:

A married woman may not make an additional entry unless her situation is such that she is qualified to make an original homestead entry; and no person can make such additional entry as widow or heir of the original homesteader.

If a person has made two former homestead entries (his right not having been restored as to either by a second entry act) and not more than six months' further residence is required as to either, he may make an additional entry under this section, provided all the other lands involved lie within twenty miles of the tract first entered.

If the two tracts formerly entered are within twenty miles of each other, proof has been submitted on the original entry, and there is available land contiguous to the tract covered thereby, the person may make an additional entry therefor under section 5 of the act, provided he still owns the original tract and resides thereon—although more than six months' residence be still required in connection with his first additional entry.

If residence for more than six months be required on said first additional entry, claimant is not qualified to make any entry under the stock-raising act for land in contiguous to the original tract. Under the circumstances last referred to said additional entry may, pursuant to the homesteader's application, be amended by including such contiguous land, its character being changed so as to stand under the stock-raising homestead law. However, such amendment can not be allowed if there is sufficient unappropriated stock-raising land adjoining the original entry to make the other tracts 640 acres. That area is the utmost which the homesteader may in any manner acquire through the entries referred to.

If the tracts covered by a person's two former entries are more than twenty miles apart, he is not qualified to make an additional entry under any section of the stock-raising act.

The marriage of a woman does not disqualify her from making an additional entry under this section; and husband and wife may make entries thereunder, additional to their respective pending entries, if an election as to residence on one of the original tracts, as provided by the act of April 6, 1914 (38 Stat., 312), has been accepted.

Such additional entry may be made by the widow or heirs of the original homesteader if they have continued to reside upon the original tract.

Where satisfactory proof has been submitted on the original entry, the additional entry for contiguous land may be perfected under this section of the act regardless of the question whether it was three-year, five-year or commutation proof.

The widow or heirs of the original homesteader may make an additional entry under section 5, if they have continued to reside upon the original tract.

The fact that an applicant owns more than 160 acres of land, acquired otherwise than through homestead entry, does not exclude him from the privileges granted by this section.

Before a designation has been made the land is subject to settlement and entry under any other laws applicable thereto unless there is pending an application and petition.

A settlement right under any other

or applicable law, if initiated prior to designation or application and petition, will, if asserted in time, defeat a claim of preference right hereunder.

The preference right of entry accorded to contestants by the act of May 14, 1880 (21 Stat., 140), is in no way affected by any of the provisions of this act.

The fact that a person presents, with his application for entry under this act, the relinquishment of a former entry covering the tract sought confers upon him no preference right for entry of the land, and such application is subject to the preferential right given by section 8 of the stock-raising homestead law.

A person who has made entry under section 6 of one of the enlarged homestead acts may make an additional entry under the provisions to section 3 or under section 4 or 5 of this act, provided all be designated as stock-raising land; but he must reside on the land entered under this act or on that originally entered, if contiguous thereto, to the extent required by the three-year homestead act.

REMINISCENCES OF THE EASTER BLIZZARD

Forty-four Years Ago on Easter Day,
April 13, Raged One of the Worst
Blizzards Known in Nebraska

Forty-four years ago tomorrow, Friday, the 13th of this month occurred what is known as the great Easter storm of '73. Many eastern people arrived in this state that spring to take up their homesteads and were unprepared for the storm. The storm lasted three days and was perhaps worse in the south east section of the state in Fillmore county in the vicinity of Geneva.

It is reported that Ex-County clerk E. K. Cobb of Geneva had left his family in Bureau county, Illinois, and was preparing a new home for them on the southeast quarter of section 28 in Hamilton Township, Fillmore county, and had his frame house enclosed and was sleeping there and getting his meals half a mile distant. He was caught by the storm at his house where he was a prisoner until Tuesday evening, the 15th, during which time he was obliged to lie in bed for warmth, and his only food was raw eggs.

Hundreds of new settlers were in even worse condition. Many of them were living in their "prairie schooners." Easter morning broke warm and balmy. A little later it began raining. The rain soon turned to snow; the wind whipped around to the northwest, and before night one of the worst blizzards of which there is any record was raging.

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